

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EPA-01 FEA-01 ERDA-05 CEQ-01

INT-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07

INR-07 IO-10 L-02 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 SS-15

SP-02 CEA-01 EA-06 FRB-03 NEA-09 OPIC-03 TRSE-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, FR, ENRG

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE - ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
STEERING GROUP

REFERENCE: PARIS 6414

1. WE HAVE DECIDED THAT, OTHER THINGS BEING EQUAL, US
SHOULD NOT CHAIR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT STEERING GROUP OF
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. SEVERAL FACTORS LED TO THIS CONCLU-
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SION, A MAIN ONE BEING THAT ADDITIONAL TIME AND EFFORT

REQUIRED OF US PARTICIPANTS IN STEERING GROUP PROPERLY AND EFFECTIVELY TO FULFILL CHAIRMAN ROLE WOULD BE INORDINATE. THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN VIEW OF THE MAJOR REORGANIZATIONS IN THIS FIELD GOING ON NOW IN USG, WITH PERSONNEL CHANGES, NEW DUTIES, ETC., MAKING HEAVIER THAN USUAL DEMANDS ON LIMITED TIME OF PERSONNEL INVOLVED.

2. PRECEDING DOES NOT, ON THE OTHER HAND, IMPLY THAT US WILL DOWNPLAY STEERING GROUP AND/OR TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES. WE INTEND SEND A HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND WELL PREPARED DELEGATION TO APRIL 21-22 MEETING. WE PLAN TO PLAY AN ACTIVE AND POSITIVE ROLE IN STEERING GROUP IN HOPES OF ACHIEVING A PROGRAM FOR TASK FORCE WHICH WILL BE ADDITIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE, AND REALISTIC. (FYI: US DEL WILL BE HEADED BY STEPHEN GAGE, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ENERGY RESEARCH, EPA. IT WILL INCLUDE PARTICIPATION FROM ERDA, AND ONE OR TWO OTHER AGENCIES. DETAILS WILL BE TRANSMITTED AT A LATER

DATE).

3. ABOVE REFERENCE TO "OTHER THINGS BEING EQUAL" SIGNIFIES ASSUMPTION THAT ANOTHER COUNTRY WILL PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE AND APPROPRIATE CHAIRMANSHIP. WE CLEARLY DO NOT WANT JUST ANY COUNTRY IN THE CHAIR, NOR DO WE WANT JUST ANY INDIVIDUAL FROM A BASICALLY APPROPRIATE COUNTRY SUCH AS THE FRG. IN OUR VIEW, MOST LIKELY POTENTIALLY APPROPRIATE CHAIRMANSHIP ROLE WOULD BE PLAYED BY CANADA OR THE NETHERLANDS. THE UNITED KINGDOM IS A THIRD POSSIBILITY. MISSION ACCORDINGLY IS REQUESTED MAKE INFORMAL SOUNDINGS OF THE MISSIONS FROM THESE COUNTRIES, POINTING OUT THAT, AS NOTED IN PARA ONE ABOVE, US PROBABLY WILL NOT BE ABLE ACCEPT FRG NOMINATION TO CHAIR STEERING GROUP, AND IS INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT BOTH WHETHER ANY OF THESE COUNTRIES MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN POSSIBLY ACCEPTING CHAIRMANSHIP AND, IF SO, WHO THEY ANTICIPATE WILL HEAD THEIR DELEGATION TO THE STEERING GROUP. KISSINGER

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